

Attachment B
FY12 Budget
Veto Items: Outside Sections

Prescription Drug Waste

Section 81

I am vetoing this section because the current statute provides for the return and redispensing of medications, the Department of Public Health has guidelines in place governing those processes, and the Department retains the authority to make further rules and regulations as necessary.

Prescription Drug Waste

Section 82

I am vetoing this section because it is unnecessary, as patients currently are permitted and are discharged with their personal bulk medications, and the Department of Public Health retains the authority to make further rules and regulations as necessary.

Senior Care Options/PACE notice

Section 87

I am vetoing this section because it imposes additional costs on the MassHealth program without a corresponding appropriation. I am prepared, however, to recommend the necessary appropriation and then to approve such a requirement.

DOI Review of Small Group Health Insurance Rates

Section 107

I am vetoing this section because it will decrease efficiency and transparency in the Division of Insurance's rate hearings.

DOI Review of Small Group Health Insurance Rates

Section 108

I am vetoing this section because it inhibits the Commissioner from conducting a thorough review of the carrier's rate submission, and automatically allowing rates that have not been thoroughly reviewed could increase premium costs and create confusion in the marketplace.

DOI Review of Small Group Health Insurance Rates

Section 109

I am vetoing this section because it strikes out the statute amended by section 108, which I have vetoed for the reasons set forth above.

Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program Waiver

Section 134

I am vetoing this section because it removes the discretion of the Secretary of Administration and Finance to review and approve waivers. The Secretary is prepared to exercise his discretion when appropriate.

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Inspector General MassHealth Audit

Section 156

I am vetoing this section because it expends scarce program funds from the Health Safety Net Trust Fund. I do not object to an audit of MassHealth by the Inspector General using other available funds.

Prescription Drug Waste

Section 178

I am vetoing this section because it requires a study of the implementation of sections 81 and 82, which I believe are unnecessary and have vetoed.

Prescription Drug Waste

Section 179

I am vetoing this section because the department has already completed a similar study and a new investigation and study would expend scarce department funds and resources and also require the acquisition of data that is not easily available and would be costly to obtain.

Cigar Bars

Section 197

I am vetoing this section because it prevents local officials from protecting the public health of their citizens.

Competition among MassHealth Managed Care Organizations

Section 203A

I am vetoing this section because it will unduly interfere with the contracts resulting from MassHealth's recent competitive procurement for its contracted managed care organizations.

Senior Care Options - Effective Date

Section 204

I am vetoing this section because it provides an effective date for section 87, which I have vetoed for the reasons set forth above.

Delay Implementation of DPH Head Injury Regs

Section 207

I am vetoing this section because it requires an unnecessary delay in the effective date of an act protecting the health of school athletes that schools have had ample time to implement.

Prescription Drug Waste

Section 216

I am vetoing this section because it provides an effective date for section 81, which I have vetoed for the reasons set forth above.

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Prescription Drug Coupons - Effective Date

Section 218

I am vetoing this section because it provides an effective date for section 109, which I have vetoed for the reasons set forth above.